

- **Community Building.** Creating the foundations for a community of practice and sustained efforts in the science, methodologies, tools, and applications of population/migration scenarios.

Although the workshop was convened to share information so that USGCRP could continue to develop more robust scenario work products, it is important to note that USGCRP did not intend that workshop participants reach consensus in order for the workshop to be considered successful, but rather emphasized the importance of individual contributions and viewpoints.

2. Workshop Agenda and the Workshop Report Format

Details of the Workshop Agenda

The SISCG organized the *Towards Scenarios of U.S. Demographic Change Workshop* with support from various member agencies. A more detailed overview of the workshop agenda, speakers, and organizers is presented in Appendix B. The workshop took place over two days and included general presentations to the entire audience as well as smaller breakout sessions.

The first day of the workshop began with plenary discussions on the background, history, and mission of the USGCRP; the goals for the workshop; and brief introductions on the topics of climate change scenarios and population projections. The majority of first day of this workshop explored the range of potential user needs for climate and demographics scenarios. The discussion centered on determining which characteristics of population, spatial/temporal scales, and types of scenarios are most important to users, and for what purposes. The first day's breakout sessions expanded on the initial objective of determining user needs and then evaluating the feasibility of implementing more discrete data within population projections. The smaller group sizes facilitated discussions that could include a wider spectrum of input on user needs from the workshop attendees.

The second day of the workshop began by contextualizing the user needs explored on the first day by evaluating the data and methodology used to model demographics. The discussion included projections for states and smaller regions of the United States; spatial projections of housing units with the Integrated Climate and Land Use Scenarios (ICLUS) model; and data challenges with spatial population projections. Next, three breakout groups engaged on different areas of interest: consistency across scale; urban community considerations; and rural community considerations. The expert groups considered topics such as the feasibility of projections at sub-national scales, key challenges to addressing user needs, and identifying which types of projections could meet those needs in the near future.

The general presentations in the afternoon shifted the workshop's focus to global scenarios and their relevance to U.S. scenarios. Drawing upon the previous discussions, this session aimed to place U.S. scenarios within a global context by considering the tradeoffs associated with linking

U.S. scenarios to global ones, as well as the role of socioeconomic factors on demographic projections. Breakout groups in the afternoon discussed non-demographic factors within the context of demographic scenarios, as well as the importance of aligning U.S. population scenarios with global scenarios, and vice versa.

The workshop closed with a synthesis of participant suggestions. USGCRP did not intend that workshop participants reach consensus in order for the workshop to be considered successful, but rather emphasized the importance of individual contributions and viewpoints in identifying needs and potential paths forward for the science of climate change scenarios and demographics projections.

Structure of the Workshop Report

The remainder of this report is divided into four sections:

- **Section 3: Meeting User Needs for Population Projections.** This section covers the uses of population projections, user needs for projections, and projection methods for meeting these needs.
- **Section 4: Capabilities for Developing U.S. Population Scenarios.** This section reports on discussions during the workshop as participants considered capabilities for developing U.S. population scenarios, including defining and integrating different approaches, the global context for U.S. scenarios, and current capabilities to meet user needs.
- **Section 5: Key Insights from Workshop Discussions.** This section describes discussions among workshop participants regarding key issues in building scenarios of U.S. demographic change.
- **Section 6: Next Steps: Moving Forward with U.S. Demographic Change Scenarios.** This section concludes with a discussion of next steps on how to move ahead with building U.S. demographic change scenarios for use in interdisciplinary analysis of social and environmental issues.

These sections are followed by references cited and four appendices that provide additional information from the workshop.

3. Meeting User Needs for Population Projections

Federal government agencies, local decision makers, researchers, and private interests use population projections to inform a range of regulatory and programmatic decisions that rely on projecting population and related variables into the future. The workshop was attended by representatives of a number of different user communities. It provided unique perspectives on the needs for population projections and methods available for meeting those needs and engendered a lively conversation on how researchers from different communities value and approach questions of uncertainty. Understanding the context in which population projections are used and the characteristics that are particularly useful for users will be important in determining how